



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## **New Research Shows Ohioans Continued to Give Back During Pandemic**

More than 2.2 million Ohioans volunteer according to latest AmeriCorps Volunteering and Civic Life in America research

**Columbus, OH** – ServeOhio announced more than 2.2 million volunteers served nearly 166 million hours across the state between September 2020 and 2021, and 4.6 million of people informally helped their neighbors, despite the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, according to the **Volunteering and Civic Life in America research.** The research also estimates that volunteers generated more than \$4.5 billion in economic value in the state.

The <u>Volunteering and Civic Life in America research</u> is the most comprehensive data on American volunteering and civic engagement assembled. Based on a survey conducted by <u>AmeriCorps</u> and the <u>US Census</u> every other year, the research includes data on volunteering through organizations, informal helping and other civic behaviors. The most recent results find that over half of Americans, or 124.7 million people, informally helped their neighbors at least once in the past year. Additionally, more than 23 percent of Americans, or 60.7 million people, formally volunteered with an organization, giving more than 4.1 billion hours of service with an estimated economic value of \$122.9 billion.

AmeriCorps is a force multiplier to bring people together across divides and bring communities back stronger for a more united America. Through national service and volunteerism, Americans are afforded new ways to engage with their communities and foster a sense of constructive action and belonging. Volunteers support American schools and shelters, hospitals and hotlines, food banks, and civic, nonprofit, tribal and faith-based organizations across the country.

Find ways to get involved in your community on <u>Get Connected</u>, ServeOhio's statewide volunteer platform.

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## About ServeOhio

ServeOhio, Ohio's Governor-appointed commission on service and volunteerism, strengthens Ohio communities through AmeriCorps and volunteer engagement. Through programs and

initiatives funded and supported by ServeOhio, thousands of Ohioans of all ages engage in and are recognized for their service. Interested participants may learn more about ServeOhio at <a href="serve-ohio.gov">serve.ohio.gov</a>, or on <a href="facebook">Facebook</a>, <a href="Instagram">Instagram</a>, <a href="Twitter">Twitter</a>, and <a href="LinkedIn">LinkedIn</a>.

## About AmeriCorps

AmeriCorps, the federal agency for volunteerism and national service, provides opportunities for Americans to serve their country domestically, address the nation's most pressing challenges, improve lives and communities, and strengthen civic engagement. Each year, the agency invests in grants for local nonprofit, community, tribal, and state organizations; places more than 200,000 AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers in intensive service roles; and empowers millions more to serve as long-term, short-term, or one-time volunteers. Learn more at <a href="mailto:AmeriCorps.gov">AmeriCorps.gov</a>.